

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 37-41 are pending in this application.

In connection with independent claim 1, applicant asserts that the prior art of record fails to teach or reasonably suggest of the coupler comprising a pair of resilient hooks disposed in an overlapping state forming a continuous loop in which a lure is engagable to the coupler by forcing the hooks apart and threading one of the hooks into and through a hook eye of the lure.

In connection with independent claim 37, applicant asserts that the prior art of record fails to teach or reasonably suggest of the coupler comprising a pair of opposing plates biased together and prongs carried by and between the plates capable of securing a hook eye of a lure.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that all of the claims presently pending in this case are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Serial Number: 09/ 5502
Art Unit: 3643

Examiner's thorough and thoughtful consideration of this application is sincerely appreciated. Should there be any remaining issues, Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for a speedy resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Goltry", written over the typed name.

Michael W. Goltry
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 39,692

29 April 2002
340 East Palm Lane
Suite 260
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
(602) 252-7494